

## The Daily Press



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SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1908.

## MEMORIAL DAY.

Today has been set apart by the Confederate veterans and the Daughters and Sons of the Confederacy of Newport News for commemorating the valor and virtue of the men who fought and suffered for the cause of the South over forty years ago. The observance today is an individualistic patriotic tribute, as are all Memorial day exercises in Virginia, as the day has no legal sanction by the Commonwealth. In the majority of the Southern states there are legal holidays known as Memorial or Decoration days but Virginia has never officially recognized the day. It seems more than passing strange that in the state where the greatest battles were fought and where the losses were the heaviest there should not be one day to the year when the people would be called upon by state law to suspend business and pay deserved tribute to the living and the dead of the "lost cause." Though the day is not legally sanctioned by the state there is little likelihood that the larger meaning and truer lessons of the day will be lost sight of by either the living or the old.

At the time of the Civil War there were into history there are few signs of a diminishing interest in the memories of the great struggle between the South and the North. The brave men who fought under the Confederate flag will doubtless be remembered for many a year to come in the observance throughout the South of the day and grow with the passing years, yet losing none of its devotion to the high patriotic spirit of the men who have made Memorial day and its lessons possible.

Today is a day of memories. While the men are being strewn on the shores of the hero dead, the old soldiers are thinking of the camp, the bivouac and the comrades who are resting in the great unknown field, and to the farther and mother come the memories of the day when their loved ones went forth never to return. The men of good lives, the sickness and the death on the field and the cruel fighting for news at home, are all in the memory today, and while recollections of the day are indulged in by those who have lived through the turmoil and distress of the four years of the war, we of the new generation should stand at attention in deep reverence and pay tribute, both to the dead and the living wearers of the gray.

THE END OF THE SUBMARINE INVESTIGATION.

The report of the special committee of the House of Representatives investigating the charges made by Representative Lilley relative to the alleged corrupt practices pursued by the Electric Boat Company in securing contracts from the Federal Government, was just what was expected, though in some respects it is unsatisfying. There is no question that Lilley made a blunder in the whole affair and that the charges made, but at the same time it was not shown in a convincing manner that the Electric Boat Company had not pursued peculiar tactics to secure contracts for submarines.

Early in the investigation it was shown that the Lake company had made a mistake in putting its case in the hands of Lilley, who talked too much at the very inception of the investigation, and who was too closely involved himself in some little tricks which did not sound good when they were brought out in the testimony, but there is no doubt that the investigation, despite the fact that it floundered so, has and will result in some good. It has already resulted in securing for the Lake company a more respectful consideration at the hands of the navy department and will probably be the means of securing for the Bridgeport concern contracts in the future.

The entire affair had such an unsavory odor to it that it leaves a decidedly bad taste in one's mouth and probably the end is not yet, as it seems to be the general belief about the Capitol that Lilley will be censured in some way when he reverts from the illness from which he is now suffering. Mr. Lilley has discredited himself and his usefulness as a member of Congress is gone. His is a case of where desire for publicity caused him to forget that persons in glass houses should not throw stones.

## BIG SNAG FOR MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

Municipal ownership has received a hard jolt in the strike of the traction employees now in progress at Cleveland. It was only a month ago that the people of that city took a day off to celebrate the end of the street car war which had been waged by Mayor Tom Johnson for seven years, and now the citizens are wondering with good cause whether their celebration was not a little premature.

The street railway system of Cleveland is conducted by a board of trustees named by the mayor, but the fact that they are city officials, does not make any difference to the employees of the road, as it is evident that all boards look alike to the Street Car Employees' Union. It seems the old company had promised the men an increase in wages when the war was over, and now the union demands that the city carry out the promise of the old company, but this is not the only trouble. The old company had a liberal transfer system by which a person could ride all over the city for one fare, but under the new order of things there are no transfers, and while a single fare is only three cents, street car riding is more expensive than it was under the old order of things. This, of course, has caused great dissatisfaction.

Not the least interesting and surprising feature of the situation is the readiness with which union labor—almost before there was time to inaugurate the scheme of municipal ownership—went on a strike. The city raised wages one cent an hour, making them 25 cents, but the men wanted an advance of two cents an hour, and that is the issue which has tied up Cleveland's trolley system. The strike has proved one thing conclusively, and that is that municipal ownership is not a panacea for strikes, a claim which is often put forward by the advocates of municipal control of public works and street railway systems.

According to a news dispatch the fish in a creek in Ohio are acting strangely because refuse from a brewery was emptied into the stream. Well, what of it? Fish are not total abstainers.

John Wesley Gaines says there is too much hot air in the national legislature. John must have been having a heart-to-heart talk with himself.

There will be no drinks served at the Republican convention, but it is not at all likely that the body will pass a rule against "pistol pockets."

A foundling baby has been adopted by a Texas league football club for a mascot. If there is any real virtue in rooting the club ought to be a winner.

It sounds like it, but nevertheless the Mohawk conference has nothing to do with automobiles.

An umpire in New Orleans assaulted a ball player. It is at least a variation from the usual program.

The first peach crop to be gathered will be at the coming commencement of the ladies' schools.

## RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.

A case just decided by a St. Louis court of justice furnishes an excellent test for a bit of a sermon we have for some time felt called upon to preach to the great number of women among our readers. The case itself is really one of small importance, but behind the immediate issue raised there is a bigger and broader question—a question that is just now of especial interest to women, and perhaps in an even more acute way to the men. Earnest consideration of the ideas suggested by the decision is especially timely in a leap year. To state our text in brief, a young man who had been paying attentions to a young woman, finding himself outside the pale of her affections, demanded the return of his gifts of love. One of these gifts being a dress, long since worn out, she referred him to the ragman for it. Another being a diamond ring, she told him she had lost it. As for minor trinkets, she bundled them up and told him he might have them if he would call for them. Then he went into court, and right there is the rub of the case. He not only went into court, but he got a verdict for the full cash value of all the gifts and one cent damages. The lady simply remarks that "he will have a hard time collecting his judgment," as she hasn't any money.

As for the property and the persons immediately concerned, the case is of little or no interest; but the mere fact that the man could and did go in to court with his claim, and that he could and did actually get a judgment, and that he can enforce the collection of that judgment if he can find anything of hers which he can realize the value—these furnish food for thought for the women of the land. Leaving out the ethics of the proceeding and the regrets over loving hearts asunder, this case shows one of the things the women of our great and glorious country are "up against" right now, and they are going to be up higher and against harder right straight along from now on. It is an undisputed axiom that the rights of citizenship carry obligations and duties; that the right to demand is always attended by the duty to answer similar demand; that privileges also involve pains and penalties. Only a few years ago the idea of a man suing a woman for the return of love tokens, or in any other way attempting to "even up" with her for jilting him, would have been considered so preposterous as to have been hoisted and jeered from one end of the country to the other. In those days the man "took his medicine like a man," and no one considered him less a man for doing so. Those were the days when the sex had, without the trouble of claiming, all possible consideration and courtesy, but as some women thought, or at least taught, none of the "rights" that seem to have come to be considered so important. The advanced woman made her appearance, and her sisters began to fall in step and to advance with her. The elevators of the sex have gone forward with the strides of giants in seven league boots, begging pardon for the simile, until it is now the proud boast that woman is emancipated, and that now women can be found working and moving side by side with men in all walks of life. Except for the mere matter of casting the ballot, woman has secured her "rights," and she even has the ballot in some of the states.

But in securing her rights, has not woman opened for herself a veritable Pandora's box of evils? This case of the former editor's suit seems to so indicate. With her dignity and her enfranchisement, woman must make up her mind to accept the duties and the penalties of her new-found station. No more convincing illustration of this can be found than in the fact that she can be and is held to account in just such cases as this, just as a man is. She can be and she is being sued for breach of promise, just as a man is. What would have been thought in the good old days of a man who would sue a woman for breach of promise, no matter how many such suits were filed with women as the plaintiff? It is all different now. The dear old days of gentle, shrinking womanhood have passed. The woman of today doesn't shrink, at least not so that you could notice it. She has got the rights she demanded. But at the same time, as the case cited indicates, she has assumed obligations she must be ready to meet.

These few words are said in the kindest admonition for those among the women who have accepted the rights without a full realization of the attendant obligation, viewed from some angles, and there are a great many women who may read the belief in our text with profit, but it is a question if there are not as many more who gladly welcome the obligations and are entirely willing to face and discharge them. Viewed from either standpoint, it is well that our sisters should be posted that they may not cherish the folly of trying to cling to old ideas with one hand while reaching out with the other to grasp the new. No, dear girls and dearer women, you are "up against the real thing now," as equal inheritors with man of the good things of the earth, and no longer may you hold to the idea that every man is a "good thing" to be done with as suits your whim. While you have been gaining your rights, man has been fortifying his—Woman's National Daily.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

A nice thing about missing a girl is when you oughtn't to.

One thing a man likes about being called a hero is he believes it's true.

The reason nearly every woman thinks she would like to go on the stage is she's so used to acting.

The average man's notion of patriotism is abusing those who run the government for not giving him part of the job.

—New York Press.



The Clinging Vine.



season will soon be in full bloom. Our line of Straw Hats for this season will be found very attractive.

WE HAVE FOR YOUR SELECTION A GREAT VARIETY OF SHAPES AND STRAWS, CONSISTING OF PANAMAS, SPLIT MILANS, MACKINAW AND THE NOTED "SENNIT" SO MUCH ADVERTISED FOR THIS SEASON.

2715 Washington Ave  
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WITH THE PARAGRAPHERS.

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The Sadness of Commencement.

To the mothers of young graduates the commencement time is a succession of thrills of pride and vague heart-burnings, for she knows that hereafter the family circle will be broken, says a writer in the June Appleton. The boy must go away off to some great business center, and will come back only once or twice a year on his annual vacation. In time she becomes reconciled to it, but it makes a great change in the cherished order of things, and she dreads it. And yet she would not have it otherwise, any more than she would with any daughter to remain unmarried and at home.

To the graduate himself, the world stretches out before him in a long and uncertain perspective. What lies ahead in the mists he doesn't know, but with the jealousy of youth he dashes in, full of hope and ambition, to find what the future holds for him. He knows that he must either fail, or that the great successful men of today will pass away, and that the great successful men of tomorrow will be chosen from the ranks which he now is in.

It is not well to try to load a ship with cargoes far beyond her tonnage capacity. Nor well to try to advertise a big store in a small space.

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## PROPER CLOTHING

Peyser Say Straw Hat

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Southbound.

Leave New York, 12:25 p. m., 11:50 a. m.

Leave Philadelphia, 2:00 p. m., 1:15 a. m.

Leave Washington, 6:05 p. m., 5:20 p. m.

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Leave Old Point, 7:00 a. m., 6:15 a. m.

Leave Norfolk, 8:00 a. m., 7:15 a. m.

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